REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114
 a. Previously submitted

(Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered.)

Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on

Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously Filed on

 Application Number
 10/657,232

 Filing Date
 September 9, 2003

 First Named Inventor
 Hiroshi SHINGAI et al.

 Group Art Unit
 2655

 Examiner Name
 Angebranndt

 Confirmation Number
 8832

 Attorney Docket Number
 P24175

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. \$1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was flied prior to May 29,2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865

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	. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required) b. Other:																				
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED																					
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